

House File 330 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 330

BY DAWSON, WESSEL-KROESCHELL,
and HEDDENS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to subsidized guardianships.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM —

2 ELIGIBILITY. In determining eligibility requirements for
3 financial assistance to guardians under the subsidized
4 guardianship program, the department of human services shall
5 amend its administrative rules to provide the following:

6 1. Any adult person who is the grandparent or other relative
7 of a child and who has been named as a guardian of the child
8 under chapter 232 or 633 may be eligible to receive a subsidy.

9 2. The guardian must provide evidence of financial need in
10 the subsidized guardianship application.

11 3. The child who is the subject of the guardianship may be
12 of any age and need not be part of a sibling group.

13 4. The child who is the subject of the guardianship has been
14 the subject of a child abuse or family assessment report and
15 has been in the custody of the department of human services.

16 Sec. 2. TITLE IV-E GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE STATE PLAN
17 AMENDMENT — SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM. The department
18 of human services shall submit a Title IV-E guardianship
19 assistance state plan amendment to the United States department
20 of health and human services to allow Title IV-E funding to be
21 used for a subsidized guardianship program to enable children
22 in the care of grandparents and other relatives to exit state
23 care and be placed in permanent homes.

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 This bill requires the department of human services to amend
28 its administrative rules contained in 441 IAC ch. 204 relating
29 to eligibility requirements for guardians under the subsidized
30 guardianship program. The bill provides that any adult person
31 who is the grandparent or other relative of a child who has
32 been named as a guardian of the child under Code chapter 232
33 (juvenile justice) or 633 (probate) may be eligible to receive
34 a subsidy and that a guardian applicant must provide evidence
35 of financial need. The child who is the subject of the

1 guardianship may be of any age regardless of whether the child
2 is part of a sibling group, and must have been the subject of a
3 child abuse or family assessment report and in the custody of
4 the department of human services.

5 The bill requires the department of human services to
6 submit a Title IV-E guardianship assistance state plan
7 amendment to the United States department of health and human
8 services to allow Title IV-E funding through the federal
9 Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act
10 of 2008 (Pub. L. No. 110-351) to be used for a subsidized
11 guardianship program to enable children to remain in the care
12 of grandparents and other relatives to avoid placement in state
13 care.